

Loved the Angelus

By Rev. Daniel A. Lord, S.J.

The hostess in the station restaurant was clearly a Catholic. She called me father and was very gracious as she took me to a table. There she stood and talked for a minute.

"You'll remember my own father at Mass, won't you?" she asked. He died just a week ago. I expressed my sympathy, but she smiled.

"Oh, he was eighty-seven, and he'd lived a full, happy life. Up to two weeks ago, he was a daily communicant. The sisters in the school used to say he gave the good example for the whole parish."

"And he loved Our Lady's Angelus. When he got old and stiff, I used to say, 'Dad, you mustn't try to kneel when the Angelus sings. Sit in your chair. He'd kneel just the same, saying as he did: 'I'll like to remember Mary and her Angelus when I'm dying.'"

"We were taken sick and his illness was very short. Our Lady remembered him. He died smiling as the evening Angelus was ringing from the parish church."

LOOKING TOWARD RUSSIA. A letter from Hooper Bay, Alaska, makes Russian Communism seem a little more vivid. Writes my correspondent:

"I suppose when communism takes the field, we here in Alaska would be the first to shed our blood for the faith. We are just across the sea from Russia."

"Did you know that recently on King Island the Eskimos carried a statue of Christ the King up to the highest point on their island. They looked it toward Russia, and Christ the King stands looking toward the Soviet with all America behind him."

The Morality of War Sursum Corda

By REV. JAMES M. GIGLEY, O.P., Editor, The Catholic World

So few speakers or writers approach the problem of war from the standpoint of ethics, that it is referred to as such a document as the pastoral letter of the Archbishop of Cincinnati, which was read in all the churches during the Lenten season just passed.

It contains four or five paragraphs close-packed with statements of vast importance. It would be a pity if the letter were known only in one city or in one State, and a pity also if it were to be regarded as only a Lenten pastoral.

The Archbishop says some vigorous words about "materialistic capitalists and industrialists, who think only in terms of property and who see in a means of enriching themselves."

He speaks with equal boldness of "politicians who have no vision and no knowledge of the history of wars, and who look on at another world-war as a means of advancing their country and the present capitalist system."

He has a word of righteous scorn and wrath for bogus "peace agencies" which actually promote war rather than peace.

He urges special prayer for the President of the United States who "until recent months" (bold face inserted) "seemed adamant against committing this country to war."

But the particular passage to which I refer is that which deals with the standards of morality, and consequently no moral sense, one scarcely settles the question of war on moral grounds for Christians, who see and know the injustice of practically all wars in our modern world.

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Franco's Work Map

'LIBRARY SIGNPOST'

A PROGRAM OF PEACE. Just for the sake of the record, I am devoting this week's column to General Franco's "Charter of Labor," proclaimed in Burgos on March 9, 1938. It was translated and published in the following precise form by the Catholic Herald of London, issues from April 22.

So much is being thrown upon Franco that ordinary decent honesty demands insistence upon the full presentation of what he is accomplishing behind the lines. Approval of his constructive work does not imply approval of the bombs thrown on Barcelona. Let fanatics say what they will.

LABOR. "It is the participation of man in production through the voluntary exercise of his intellectual and manual faculties, according to his personal vocation, for the purpose of the dignity and ease of his life, and the better development of national economy."

"It will be valued and exalted by the State as the fruitful expression of the creative spirit of man."

THE WORKER. "It is promised by the State the exercise of his freedom and effective action in his defense. The length of the working day will be limited explicitly that it may not be excessive. Night work for women and children will be prohibited, with the same regulations and the married woman freed from the workshop and the factory."

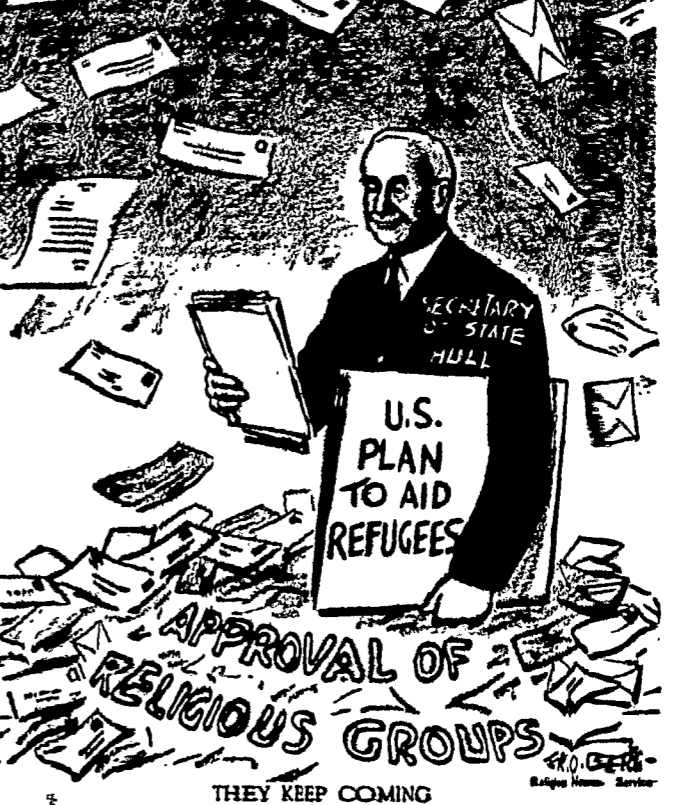
"It is entitled to annual paid holidays to give him a merited rest. His health and conditions will be organized to assure the best accomplishment of his disposition."

"It will have at the necessary institutions opportunity to obtain an increase of social insurance for old age, infirmity, maternity, accidents at work, vocational diseases, tuberculosis, and forced unemployment, aiming at the provision of total insurance."

"It must have comfortable retirement when old."

"In agriculture will receive technical education, and the prices of their products will be regulated and realized as to normal conditions, lacking a card or two of this peculiar household auxiliary."

THEY KEEP COMING



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AN EDITOR'S PRAYER

To St. Francis de Sales, Patron of Journalists. Forgetting our Thorns and Grails, Then bind our hands in charity's bands, Sweet St. Francis de Sales.

Thumb Tacks

A MEDITATION. A peculiar contrivance—the thumb tack. Necessary child, a mechanical device of varying proportions and innumerable shapes offering of some peculiar genius whose inventive genius burned all the brighter because it found expression in a simple form.

The thumb tack has insinuated itself into our complicated mode of living until no man must of his home complete lacking a card or two of this peculiar household auxiliary.

It is most aptly named. It is most aptly named. It is most aptly named. It is most aptly named.

A Dictionary Of Catholic Thought

People generally quarrel because they cannot argue. K. Chesterton. The first one to become angry while arguing loses the argument.—Anonymous.

Catholic Council 1938

With the Approbation of the Most Reverend James Edward Kearney, D. D., Bishop of Rochester

THE CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION OF UNITED STATES MEMBERS TO N. C. W. C. NEWS SERVICE (WASHINGTON, D. C.)

MANAGING EDITOR: JAMES E. KEARNEY, D. D., Bishop of Rochester. ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR: JAMES E. KEARNEY, D. D., Bishop of Rochester.

WAYS ON CALL. "I am the first thought in a Catholic family when old trouble strikes the household of tragedy strikes."

Here in this disease it is a matter of a telephone call to a priest—but to provide them for the future is another matter. The young men who answer their divine call must have a long period of years for the multitude of things which are to be done.

EDUCATION WEEK COMING. These days much attention is given to vocational guidance. If effort in this field helps young men and women to positions for which they are qualified and to avoid those which they are not qualified, then vocational guidance fulfilled its purpose.

What shall I be? is a question that every young man and woman must face. In answer should never be sought about recourse to divine guidance. Just as it is possible for one to take up an avocation for which he has no talent, so it is possible for one to attempt a vocation for which he is not fitted by nature or by grace.

IN AN AGAIN PROFESSOR. Catholic college students are fair-minded. They were naturally quick to resent it when it was called to their attention that the Professor of Swing had engaged his noted orchestra to play at a Washington affair to help the Communist cause in Spain.

They were even inclined to stop buying the brand of cigarettes produced by sponsors of the Swingman's radio broadcast.

They wrote to the tobacco firm to learn why such a thing should take place and received a satisfactory reply. The Catholic college men here came information from the tobacco company that the firm's contract with Mr. Benny Goodman covered only one broadcast a week and allowed no other appearances and engagements.

In 'Old' New Orleans Diocesan Recordings

Dedicated to the Holy Eucharist, the annual convention of the Catholic Press Association of the United States is in session, this week-end in New Orleans. In the deep South have gathered editors and publishers of Catholic diocesan newspapers, magazines and periodicals to review what has happened since their meeting here in Rochester last May and to plan future development of the Catholic press in the United States.

History repeats itself. When this country was but a group of colonies, it was made up of persons who had left Europe to escape religious persecution. Today everything possible is being done for some 50,000 Catholic refugees from Germany and some 20,000 Catholic refugees from Austria who have fled to more than a dozen different countries in Europe besides different countries in Spain, many of whom are now being taken care of by the United States Bishop's Committee for Catholic Refugees. The Committee has reported loans to refugees in this country for immigration and settlement, and for emergency relief, and financial assistance to refugees abroad. Preservation of this country as a haven for those who suffer for their religion should be worked for by all Americans who appreciate the tradition of these United States.

Extension of the work carried on by the National Catholic Hour is planned by the National Council of Catholic Men, sponsors of that radio hour. The Board of Directors of the organization has started in motion plans for promotion of full Catholic use of radio facilities in spreading the Church's message. The N.C.M. will be the leading organization in the production of religious radio programs and will promote use of time available for Catholic sponsorship of local stations. It is now up to the local groups to be called upon to do their part. The convention in New Orleans will again display Catholic publications in an exhibit such as was

Feast Days

- Sunday, May 15 - ST. JESUS CONFESSOR. Monday, May 16 - ST. JULIA, VIRGIN AND MARTYR. Tuesday, May 17 - ST. SPONTANIAN AND ROGATION. Wednesday, May 18 - ST. GREGORY VII. Thursday, May 19 - ST. PHILIP NERI. Friday, May 20 - ST. MARY MAGDALEN OF PAEN. Saturday, May 21 - ST. GERMANUS, BISHOP AND MARTYR.

Question Box

- Q. Is it true that the Church has power to make laws that bind in conscience? A. In matters spiritual the Church has the same authority which belongs to God Himself. Our Lord plainly indicates this when He said "To Me is given all power in heaven and on earth, as the Father sent Me so I send you. Again He said "He that hears you, hears Me, and he that despists you despists Me." And once again "He that will not hear the Church let him be to thee as a heathen and a publican."
- Q. Please explain what is the Miraculous Medal? A. The medal of Our Blessed Mother which is commonly called the Miraculous Medal is result of a vision vouchsafed to Sister Catherine Labouré who was declared Blessed in 1933. This vision occurred in Paris in 1830 at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of the Most Holy Blessed Virgin which the humble religious to have medals made and distributed according to the design which she herself had sketched. It is the Medal of the Immaculate Conception but commonly called the Miraculous Medal through the wonderful favors granted to those who devoutly wear it. A special feast in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal was granted by Pope Leo XIII.
- Q. To satisfy a non-Catholic friend of mine will you please answer the following: "Protestants believed in Italy." A. Article I of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Italy is as follows: "The Catholic religion is the sole religion of the State but religious freedom is guaranteed to non-Catholics. The treaty between the Kingdom of Italy and the Vatican State recognizes this article of the Constitution."
- Q.—Why does the altar dome in which the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered contain relics of the saints? A.—In the early part of the Church Mass was usually offered upon the tombs of the martyrs. Therefore, the celebration of Mass on altar stones containing the relics of saints perpetuates, as it were, this custom.
- Q.—Is it a sin to do things when in doubt whether they are sinful or not? A.—Yes. When we are in doubt whether a thing is right or wrong, we are bound to obtain the information from competent authority.
- Nothing is more certain than that much of the force as well as grace of arguments as well as of instructions, depends on their conciseness.—Pope.
- A strong argument loses no more from courtesy than the kick of a camel loses from the softness of the beast's foot.—O'Malley.